Specifically, the Examiner states that the term "method of claim 0" renders the claim indefinite.

In response thereto, Claim 8 is hereby amended to overcome this rejection, as suggested by the Examiner, to recite dependence upon Claim 7.

In addition, the Examiner states that Claim 8 is also indefinite when R^2 is H.

In response thereto, Claim 8 is hereby amended to overcome this rejection by defining the term R^2, as used therein, as not including "H" as one of ordinary skill in the art would clearly understand that a compound of formula III does not require treatment with R^2-L, to form a compound of formula II, wherein R^2 is H, as, in this particular instance, this formula III compound is the same compound as the formula II.

Thus, in view of the amendment, the rejection of Claim 8 is now moot.

Conclusion

Applicants concur with the Examiner's decision that Claims 1-7 and 9-10 are allowable.

Regarding Claim 8, based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection, under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is now moot. Therefore,

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 8 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn. Applicant further requests that a notice of allowance be issued for pending Claims 1-10.

Respectfully Submitted:

Date: 14 April 2003

Scott Alexander McNeil
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37,185

Pfizer Inc.
Patent Department, Box 519
Eastern Point Road
Groton, Connecticut 06340
(860) 715-0871

ATTACHMENT TO AMENDMENT

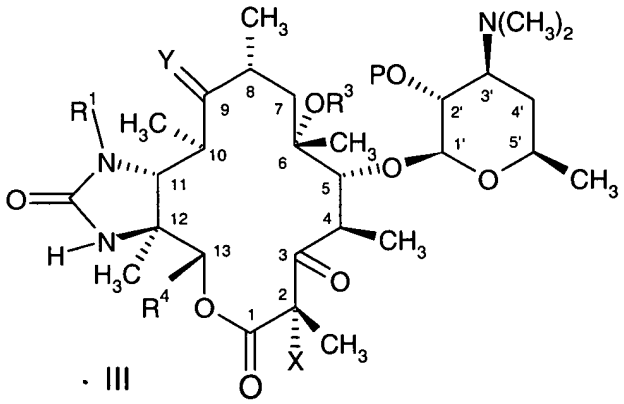
Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

DO NOT ENTER THIS VERSION

CLAIMS

2(twice amended). The compound of claim [0] 1 wherein Y is =O or =NOR^5, R^1 is (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C_1-C_6 alkyl, wherein the heterocyclic is substituted by 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic, R^2 is C_1-C_{10} alkyl or C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, R^3 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, R^4 is ethyl, R^5 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, and R^6 is H.

8(twice amended). The method of claim [0] 7 further wherein the compound of formula II is prepared by treating a compound of the formula



III

with a strong base and a compound of formula R^2-L, where L is a leaving group, and wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of [H,] C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, C_2-C_{10} alkynyl, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C_1-C_6 alkyl, (4- to 10-membered

heterocyclic) C_2-C_6 alkenyl, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C_2-C_6 alkynyl, (C_6-C_{10} aryl) C_1-C_6 alkyl, (C_6-C_{10} aryl) C_2-C_6 alkenyl, and (C_6-C_{10} aryl) C_2-C_6 alkynyl wherein said alkyl moieties of the foregoing groups are optionally substituted by halo or C_1-C_6 alkyl, and wherein said heterocyclic moieties are optionally substituted by 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C_1-C_6 alkyl, or (C_6-C_{10} aryl) C_1-C_6 alkyl, and further wherein the aryl and heterocyclic moieties of each of the foregoing groups and optional substituents is optionally substituted by 1 to 4 R^7 groups.